# **Energy Related Uses of the OCS: Other Proposals**

## **Chris Oynes MMS Gulf of Mexico OCS Region**

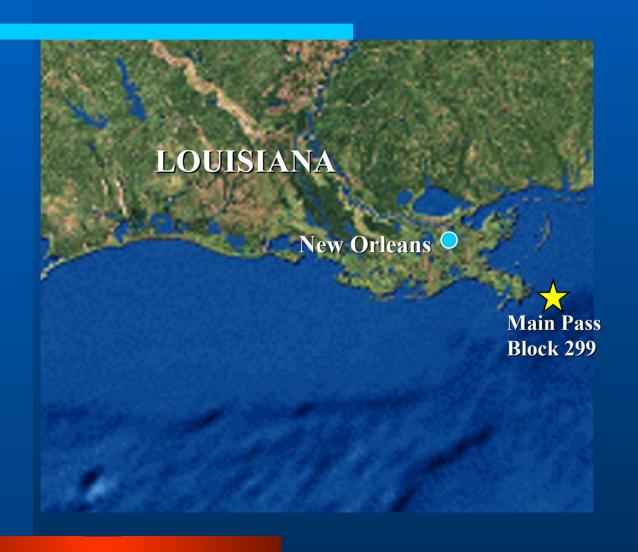
OCS Policy Committee/San Diego, CA--October 31, 2001



## **Energy Related Uses of the OCS: Other Proposals**

- McMoRan's Waste Injection Project
- Bulk Offshore Oil Transfer System (BOOTS)
- Compressed Gas
- Offshore Supply Bases

## McMoRan's Waste Injection Project





### McMoRan's Waste Injection Project

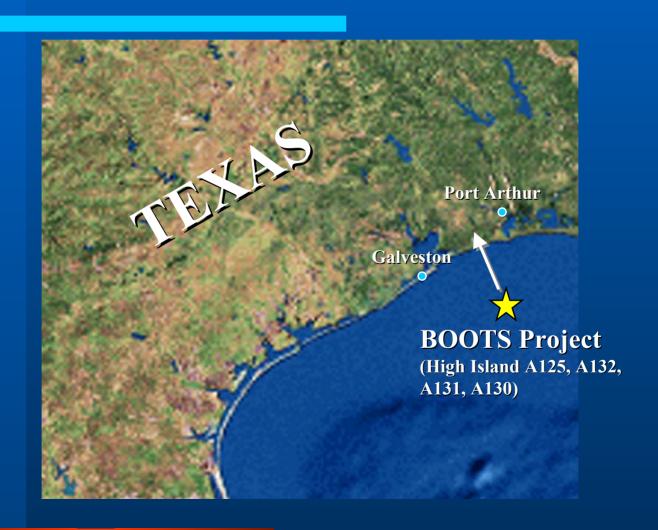
- Freeport-McMoRan filed four applications with MMS to inject up to 5 million bbl/yr of OCSgenerated E&P wastes into three salt caverns and associated caprock formations on Main Pass Block 299 (initially filed in January 2001)
- project site located about 14 miles southeast of Louisiana at the mouth of the Mississippi River

### McMoRan's Waste Injection Project

- these are normal wastes from E&P activities
- these wastes are exempt under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)
- wastes transferred by supply vessels and barges (loads up to 25,000 bbl)
- MMS environmental assessment to be completed by April 2002



## **BOOTS**





#### BOOTS

- BOOTS, L.L.C. was formed by Unocal to build an offshore oil port or Bulk Offshore Oil Transfer System (BOOTS) about 70 miles offshore Port Arthur, Texas
- this system will take oil from tankers and bring it onshore through a 48" oil pipeline (capacity of 1.25 millions barrels per day)
- to be licensed by DOT under the Deepwater Ports Acts of 1974 (similar to Louisiana Offshore Oil Port or LOOP)

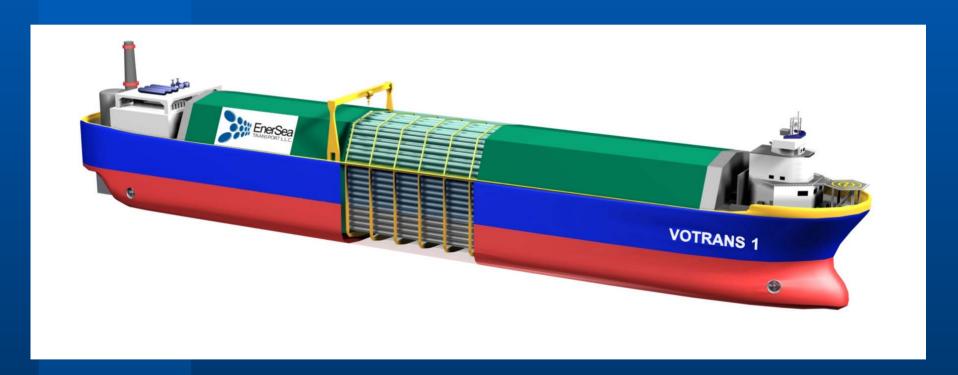


#### BOOTS

- environmental review work will need to begin ahead of the actual filing of the license application
- an EIS will be prepared by the Corps/Maritime Administration (contracted)
- license application is slated for April 2002, with license approval in April 2004
- MMS would be involved in the EIS and in providing technical assistance on pipeline design and routing



## Compressed Natural Gas





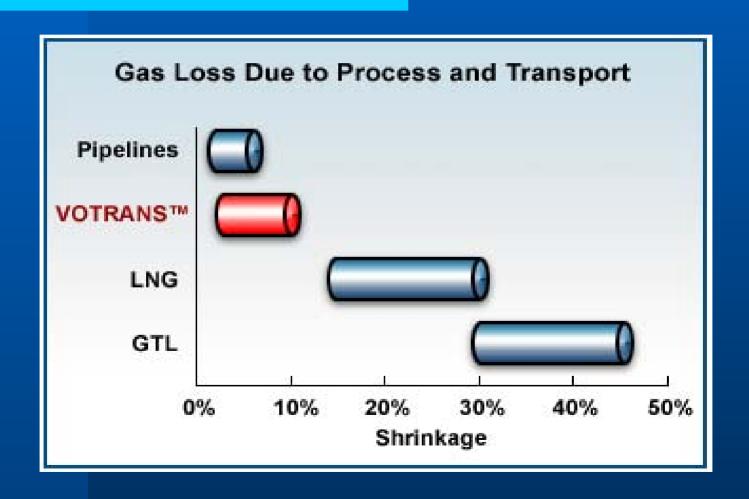
## Compressed Natural Gas

#### **CNG's role in the GOM:**

- best alternative to pipelines or re-injection
- ultra-deep pipelines (??? commercial and technical viability)
  - high compression requirements
  - flow assurance concerns
  - repair challenges
- unlock ultra-deep gas potential
- unlock marginal field developments
- safe offshore offloading

#### MMS

## Compressed Natural Gas





## Offshore Supply Bases

- ✓ Heliport
- Medical Facility
- Drilling Mud Base
- Offshore Pipeyard

## Legislative Problems with these Projects

- Deepwater Ports Act omits MMS; yet it has technical expertise
- MMS's legislative/regulatory coverage of these is weak (limited to right-of-ways)
- other agencies' jurisdiction is limited/tied to a specific focus
- no clear "one stop shopping" to consider a project in total
- environmental and technical review, and inspection authority are weak under current regime

